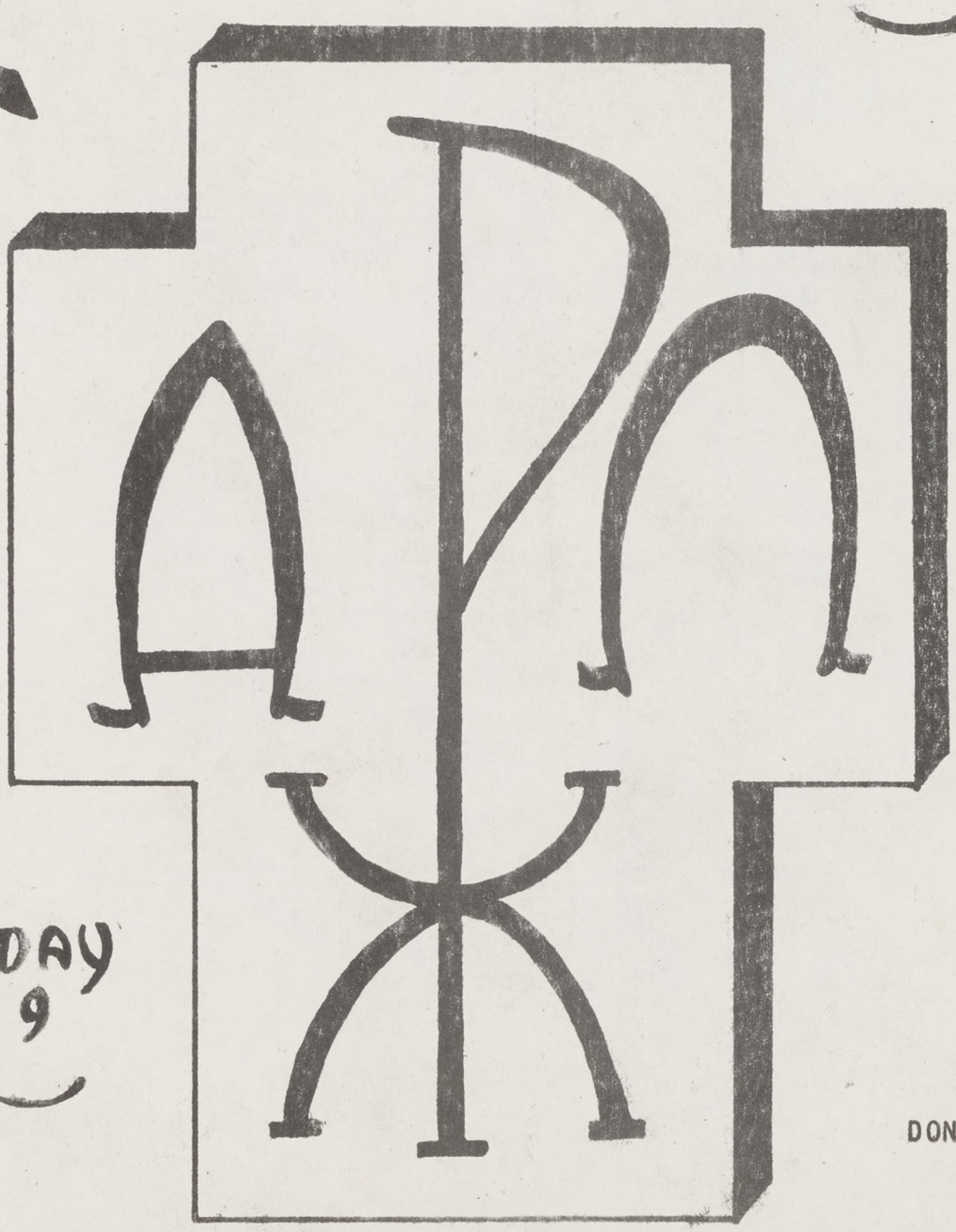
MCC NEWS

NO. 30

Mother's Day



SUNDAY
MAY 9

DONATION 25 ¢

MCC NEWS

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ALL articles to be published in the MCC NEWS MUST be signed. If you are concerned enough to write, and we hope you are, be concerned enough to sign your articles, etc.....

The Spirit of Gentleness

READ GALATIANS 6:1-10

Bible Thought: ***"For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. What do you wish? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love in a spirit of gentleness?"*** **(1 Corinthians 4:20-21).**

ONE of the problems the church has been concerned with since the very beginning has been discipline. Questions like, when is it needed, and how is it to be applied, have caused great concern among leaders of the flock. In the scriptures listed above, discipline is being considered and in both cases the phrase, "spirit of gentleness" is used. Considering the other teachings in the New Testament concerning gentleness it seems apparent that the Holy Spirit is telling those who would lead the flock of God that when discipline is needed, they must purge themselves of any motives that would be unchristlike, then with great care and wisdom do whatever is necessary in the spirit of gentleness to bring back the erring one to God.

In the area of church discipline there are no simple answers, but as long as leaders of the church live as Christ taught them to live and pray for the wisdom from above God will help them to do what is right. "Whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins" (James 5:20).

Dear Heavenly Father, we pray for those who shepherd thy flock throughout the world. We thank you for them and ask that you continue to bless them as they ask for thy guidance in dealing with spiritual problems in the spirit of gentleness. Through Jesus we pray. Amen.

M.C.C. NEWS 2201 S. UNION AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90007

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SEE CHARLES PIERCE!

MCC MAY FESTIVAL

MAY 22

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Deacon Tom Purcell needs some volunteers to pass out handbills at the various bars, restaurants and other business establishments popular among our community. These are advertisements for our May Festival, which will take place on May 22nd.

Can you help Deacon Tom? If so, please call 223-3787 for further information.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Bo:

Just a few lines on book news that might interest readers of *MCC News*, Los Angeles:

A wonderful paperback anthology entitled *Is Gay Good?: Ethics, Theology, and Homosexuality* is now available. It is edited by W. Dwight Oberholtzer, published by Westminster Press, price $3.50. It contains a chapter written by Rev. Troy Perry. *Must* reading!

The Gay Crusaders was to be released this week but has been postponed until May 30th, according to *Publishers Weekly*.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Howell
MCC-Oakland

YOUR SOCIAL DIRECTOR

In less than three weeks we will have our May Festival. The interest in this year's Festival is fantastic. If you have not picked up your ticket, you had better do so. They are going fast.

Next weekend all of Los Angeles will be deluged with our flyers on the Festival. I am setting a goal of one thousand people attending. If you want to help your church, help us by selling tickets and by putting our advertisements in the hands of your fellow brothers and sisters.

Above all, remember the proceeds are going to be quite helpful in paying off our mortgage.

Our first Brunch was quite successful. Because of your support we had a $73.00 profit after expenses. This will go towards equipping our kitchen and social hall.

Because of the time working on the Brunches and trying to keep our menu interesting, we are going to have a Brunch every other week, alternating with the coffee hour.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Bill Bennett

NORTHEAST PARISH PROJECTED MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

MAY	
May 11	Movie and discussion, "Suicide"
May 25	Slides, Ron Hayes: South America
JUNE	
June 7	Parish Planning Committee
June 8	Discussion, "Know Why You Believe"
June 19	Luau, with entertainment, at Larry ReQua's
JULY	
July 6	Discussion, Situation Ethics as source text, led by Seminary students
July 20	Parish Overnight Retreat, Location to be announced
AUGUST	
August 2	Parish Planning Committee
August 3	Discussion, "Situation Ethics"
August 21	Beach Soiree with Costa Mesa and San Diego at Huntington Beach, with Dance in the evening
August 31	"Churches of the Soviet Union," lecture by Rodger Harrison
SEPTEMBER	
September 14	Open
September 19	Mexican Independence Day Theme Church Picnic at Arroyo Park, sponsored by Northeast Parish

OUR GANG

"STEPPING OUT"

About 25 members of our congregation gathered together on Friday, April 23rd for a really delightful dinner and an evening of lively conversation and warm fellowship at the lovely home of Frank Beasley and Deputy Deacon Larry ReQua.

Our Pastor says frequently, "When you join our Church you join to work!" As I looked around at those present I was impressed to think of the many hours given quietly without any fuss and the high degree of energetic involvement represented by this relaxed group of Metropolitan Christians.

Board Member Howard Coburn greeted us; Howard is Director of Building & Repairs and Assistant Director of Personal Services. We next greeted one of the best known couples in our Church, Deacon Tom Purcell and Board Member Don Hughes; Don is also working hard as the new Editor of *IN UNITY*.

Not one Social Director appeared, but two! Bill Bennett, the present Social Director, was there and so was his predecessor, Alan Davis, who came up from San Diego with Peter Sharpe to visit, shop, clip the poodle and greet their many friends; Alan & Peter are attending MCC - San Diego and hope to become as actively involved there as they were here. Charlie Eckhardt, Coordinator of "Our Gang," came by; Charlie, one of our dearest friends, really believes in energetically supporting the volunteer activities of the Church -- he has worked on the *MCC News*, arranged theater parties, painted seats for the sanctuary and is now considering joining the Choir. We were so pleased to see Tom Gaussman; Tom & Dale Dyal worked hard conducting classes in sign language so our congregation can learn to communicate with the wonderful boys & girls at our Church who happen to be deaf. We also saw Exhorter Andy Lloyd, who also serves sometimes as Usher. Roger Perryman (also on the Usher Committee) arrived a bit late direct from his new restaurant at 81-A Fairoaks Avenue in Pasadena. Good luck, Roger!

Cliff Ferguson was invaluable; he took charge of the barbeque and cooked our steaks to a turn. Cliff is another busy and energetic member; he planned and landscaped the Meditation Garden at Church. He and Dennis helped the hosts clear things up too.

Had a chance to chat with Rev. Dick Hetz, who told me he would be doing the honors at his niece's wedding. We had an interesting conversation regarding the problems involved in pastoring a church. Rev. Hetz is not a Metropolitan minister, but has pastored a congregation of his own in the past.

Choir members Jim Bomgard, Les Nudelman and Carl Knudsen were present. They contribute many hours of rehearsal to achieve the beautiful results we hear on Sundays. Our ubiquitous Greeter, Lyle Dunlop, and Chad Carlson were also present.

A delightful steak dinner was served. Charlie Eckhardt's tossed green salad was fit for a gourmet. A selection of champagne, cold duck and red wines were available, but probably the best part of the evening was just being able to share such a perfect evening in the company of so many beautiful, achievement-oriented people. No church could survive without the strong backbone and drive that active members provide to make our special Church a success. Thank God there are so many others, too, who weren't mentioned only because they weren't present.

Al Correa

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NOTICE

All tickets and/or money for the "May Festival" are to be turned in by May 16th to Bill Bennett.

****

Herb Pomeroy then sang with such power and inspiration that the congregation (particularly Rev. Van Heck) felt the presence of God among us. Rev. Perry asked us to stand and led us in a special prayer, calling upon God to give work and assistance to our unemployed and help to the needy.

Ten new members were then accepted. Turning to a friend next to me, I asked him when he was going to join. "Never," he replied, adding something about the Catholic Church being the *only* church for him. I guess everyone needs some ideal image to look up to, such as this young man's vision of the Catholic Church; I hope, for the sake of his own idealism, that he continues to worship with our Metropolitan Protestants as he has for the past eight months, and that he never chooses to put his Bishop to the test with a true confession which might shatter his illusions.

Being alone this morning, our two favorite lovers were kind enough to accompany me to receive Communion with them. Seeing Rev. Perry being assisted by our brother, Deacon Leo Hunt, brought this truly inspiring Sunday to a beautiful conclusion.

Al Correa

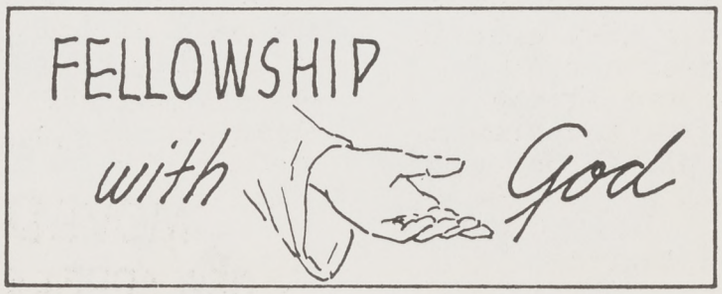
"Sing joyfully to the Lord." This your Chancel Choir does to the best of its abilities, with the help of John Wesley, Director, and Michel Moulin, Organist.

Last week we had four new members join the Choir. They are: Lorene Gates and Jim Miller, First Tenor; Don Middleton, Baritone; and Harlan Weirick, Bass. Now is a good time for any of our brothers and sisters to join us in learning our new music. We have many new anthems to work up and soon we will be working on a musical for the fall.

On the fourth Sunday, when I sit in the audience, I hear many good voices; especially those of you girls; if any of you know of good singers let us know. Why not join one of the Choirs in the Church? Either the Chancel or Gospel Choir could use you. Put those beautiful voices to work! The Chancel Choir meets every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:15 a.m. The Gospel Choir meets Monday and Friday nights at 7:30 p.m., or maybe you would like to try both to see which you prefer?

Hope to see you in Choir!

M. Dale Holland
President
Chancel Choir



COUPLES CLUB

Family units are invited to the monthly social meeting of the Couples' Club on Friday, May 14th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Church Social Room downstairs.

These meetings have been very enjoyable in the past, giving Couples an opportunity to meet other Couples with similar interests. Many fine friendships have been formed. We hope more female couples in our community will attend. We'll be looking for you, Bo & Lanna! You too, Karen! And where have Patti & Marie been lately?

Our Pastor indicated that he might join us this Friday evening; we're particularly hoping Deacon Ray Street (our Assistant Pastor's other half) will be well enough to drop in. Many couples have never had a chance to meet the spouses of the prominent people in our Church.

See you there!

Ronald T. Pannell

SAN DIEGO SUNSHINE NEWS

When San Diegans aren't basking in the sunshine, they are all attending services at MCC.

Our Pastor, John Hose, is still hitting us with those inspiring sermons each week and our choir, under the able direction of Ken Herman, keeps us on our toes vocally speaking.

At the social hour afterwards, over coffee and cookies, we get acquainted and, with old friends, caught up on the week's gossip. Recently, a most worthy project took place during this hour: we wrote letters to our assemblymen praising and pushing the Brown bill. Stationery and names and addresses of our assemblymen were thoughtfully furnished by those in the know at MCC.

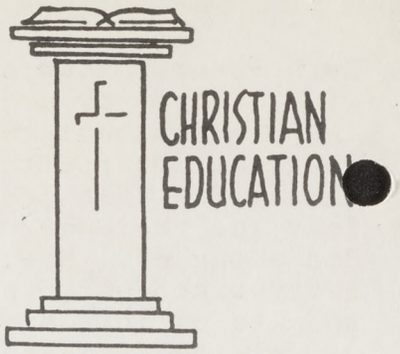
On April 27, about a hundred of (Assistant Pastor) Howard Williams' friends gathered in his home to help celebrate his umpteenth 39th birthday (that's what he told us). Mike Scott, from MCC LA, was a very special guest.

Come and join us in prayer and good fellowship when in the San Diego area! Services are held at 7:00 p.m. at Chollas View Methodist Church, 906 47th Street.

Alan Davis

MOVED ?

NEW ADDRESS
PHONE NUMBER



ACADEMY STARTS NEW CLASSES

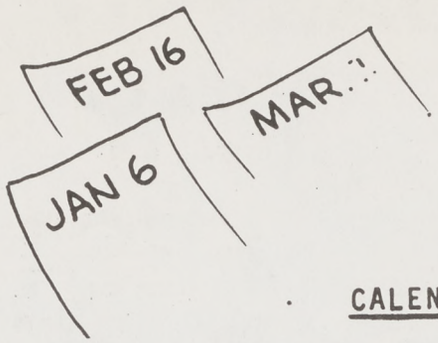
May 30th the next session of classes will begin for The Academy.

Rev. Richard Ploen, Minister of Christian Education, announced that the classes will be entitled: "What the Bible Says About Homosexuality" and "Old Testament Introduction." Rev. Ken Jones will teach the class on "What the Bible Says," and Rev. Ploen will teach the class on "Old Testament Introduction."

Classes will be held for 10 weeks on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. One unit of credit will be granted upon the successful completion of the course.

Rev. Ploen said plans were under way to add classes on Church Drama, Psychology, and one of the New Testament letters, perhaps I & II Corinthians.

Anyone interested in registering for the next session should contact Rev. Ploen, or the Church School secretary. Registration fee is $1.00.



DATES to Remember!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY, MAY 10th	7 - 9	SAMARITAN BIBLE SEMINARY
	7:30	GROUP THERAPY
TUESDAY, MAY 11th	8:00	NORTHEAST PARISH MEETING, MOVIE AND DISCUSSION: "SUICIDE"
	8:00	CENTRAL PARISH MEETING: 731 N. ST. ANDREWS PLACE, APT. 402, HOLLYWOOD
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12th	7:00	MCC MOTORCYCLE CLUB OF CALIFORNIA, MEETING AT THE CHURCH
	7 - 9	SAMARITAN BIBLE SEMINARY
	8:00	PRAYER MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 13th	7:00	CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL
FRIDAY, MAY 14th	7 - 9	SAMARITAN BIBLE SEMINARY
	7:30	COUPLES CLUB MEETING
	7:30	GOSPEL CHOIR REHEARSAL
	8:00	POT LUCK DINNER AND DANCE AT THE CHURCH SOCIAL HALL
SATURDAY, MAY 15th	8:00	PRAYER GROUP
SUNDAY, MAY 16th	9:00	COMMUNION SERVICE
	9:30	THE ACADEMY: "THE LIFE OF CHRIST" "ETHICAL PROBLEMS"
	10:30	CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL
	10:45	MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES
	7:00	EVENING WORSHIP SERVICES
TUESDAY, MAY 18th	7:30	HOLLYWOOD PARISH MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 25th	8:00	VALLEY PARISH MEETING AT BOB BAKER'S, 5348 ALLOT AVENUE, VAN NUYS. PHONE 789-2966 FOR DIRECTIONS

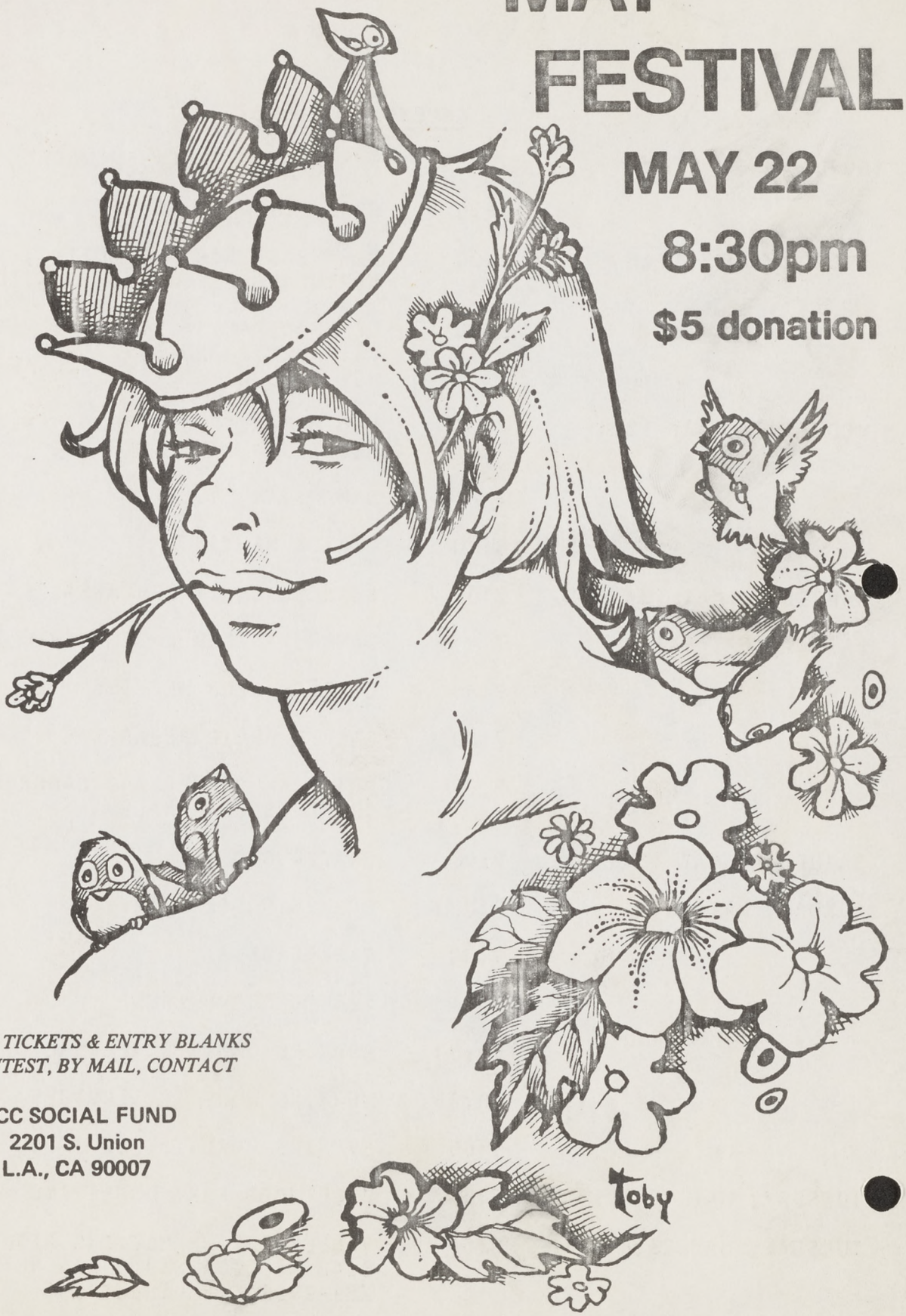
MCC'S 3rd ANNUAL

MAY FESTIVAL

MAY 22

8:30pm

$5 donation



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